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Spatially-Resolved Analyses of Aerodynamic Fallout from a Uranium-Fueled Nuclear Test

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1	Spatially-Resolved Analyses of Aerodynamic Fallout from a Uranium-Fueled Nuclear Test
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10	
11	Highlights
12 13	 We measured the spatial distribution of U isotopes, major elements, and radioactivity in five glassy fallout spherules We used secondary ion mess spectrometry electron microscopy x ray spectroscopy and
14	• we used secondary ion mass spectrometry, electron microscopy, x-ray spectroscopy, and autoradiography
16	• In two spherules, the ²³⁵ U/ ²³⁸ U ratio is heterogeneous and correlated with major elements
17	• In two spherules, the ²³⁵ U/ ²³⁸ U ratio is approximately homogeneous
18 19	• These results reflect variable mixing within fallout spherules between U from the device and U from the soil
20 21	• We use these results to discuss the evidence and roles of various fallout formation processes
22	Keywords: SIMS; trinitite; fallout; device debris; nuclear forensics
23	
24	Abstract
25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37	Five silicate fallout glass spherules produced in a uranium-fueled, near-surface nuclear test were characterized by secondary ion mass spectrometry, electron probe microanalysis, autoradiography, scanning electron microscopy, and energy-dispersive x-ray spectroscopy. Several samples display compositional heterogeneity suggestive of incomplete mixing between major elements and natural U (238 U/ 235 U = 0.00725) and enriched U. Samples exhibit extreme spatial heterogeneity in U isotopic composition with 0.02 < 235 U/ 238 U < 11.84 among all five spherules, and 0.02 < 235 U/ 238 U < 7.84 within a single spherule. In two spherules, the 235 U/ 238 U ratio is correlated with changes in major element composition, suggesting the agglomeration of chemically and isotopically distinct molten precursors. Two samples are nearly homogeneous with respect to composition and uranium isotopic composition, suggesting extensive mixing possibly due to experiencing higher temperatures or residing longer in the fireball. Linear correlations between 234 U/ 238 U, 235 U/ 238 U, and 236 U/ 238 U ratios are consistent with a two-component mixing model, which is used to illustrate the extent of mixing between natural and enriched U end members.
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39	1. Introduction

There is renewed interest in post-detonation glassy fallout formed during surface and near-surface nuclear
explosions (Parekh et al., 2006; Eby et al., 2010; Fahey et al., 2010; Belloni et al., 2011; Bellucci et al., 2012;
Cassata et al., 2014; Eppich et al., 2014; Sharp et al., 2014). During the era of above ground nuclear testing, fallout
analyses focused on understanding device performance and how radioactivity spread post-detonation. Techniques

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for analyzing fallout on small spatial scales were generally limited to methods such as autoradiography to image the distributions of fission and activation products (Adams et al., 1960). Today, using modern microanalytical techniques, spatially-resolved analyses of post-detonation fallout from historic nuclear tests can provide much more information on the distribution of stable and long-lived radioactive isotopes with the goal of a more comprehensive understanding of fallout formation, such as improved constraints on formation mechanisms, timescales, and

49 temperatures (Cassata et al., 2014; Eppich et al., 2014).

50 Glassy fallout forms when a nuclear device is detonated on or near the Earth's surface. Surface detonations melt 51 large masses of environmental material (e.g., soil), which may remain in place or be swept into the nuclear fireball. 52 In both cases, the molten material may interact with device components, fission and activation products, and 53 unfissioned fuel (collectively 'device debris'; Brode, 1968; Glasstone and Dolan, 1977). As the fireball cools below 54 the melting point of the surrounding material, device debris becomes trapped within a fused glassy matrix and 55 rapidly cools, forming glassy fallout. Because the mass of melted environmental material can be much greater than 56 mass of the device in near surface events, the major element composition of these glasses can predominantly reflect 57 that of the local geology and/or emplacement environment, and device debris is generally present only in trace 58 quantities (Adams and O'Connor, 1957; Miller, 1964).

59 There are two main morphological classes of glassy fallout, referred to herein as ground glass and aerodynamic 60 glassy fallout. Ground glass usually exhibits a smooth, glassy surface with compositional variations often 61 transitioning to unmelted soil (Eby et al., 2010). This is consistent with either in-situ melting of soil and/or solid 62 material being swept into the fireball and incompletely melted, before raining back down onto the soil below 63 (Hermes and Strickfaden, 2005). In contrast, aerodynamic glassy fallout (also known as fallout beads or spherules) 64 usually appears glassy throughout and often exhibits spheroidal, near-spheroidal, or dumbbell shapes, consistent 65 with fusing and quenching while still aloft (Miller, 1960; Crocker et al., 1965; Tompkins et al., 1970; Fig. 1). 66 Aerodynamic glasses often have smaller glassy spheres attached to their surfaces, consistent with growth through 67 collisional processes and mixing of molten droplets within the fireball (Miller, 1964; Stewart, 1956). For 68 aerodynamic fallout, the cooling timescale depends on device yield, but is estimated (Glasstone et al., 1977; Izrael, 69 2002) and measured (Cassata et al., 2014) to be on the order of seconds. Few previous studies have focused 70 specifically on aerodynamic fallout glasses, but these objects are of particular interest due to their elevated 71 concentrations of residual fuel and fission and activation products (Mackin et al., 1958; Eppich et al., 2014). How 72 direct device components distribute themselves within aerodynamic fallout remains unaddressed.

Ground glass from the Trinity test, popularly referred to as 'trinitite', has been extensively studied over the past decade (Parekh et al., 2006; Eby et al., 2010; Fahey et al., 2010; Belloni et al., 2011; Bellucci et al., 2012; Bellucci et al., 2013; Wallace et al., 2013; Bellucci et al., 2014; Sharp et al., 2014). These studies demonstrate that trinitite is a compositionally heterogeneous mixture of completely melted, partially melted, and unmelted minerals found in the local geology, with the glassy and eddied portions of the trinitite containing most of the unfissioned Pu fuel and fission products. Comparisons of trinitie with observations of aerodynamic fallout from Trinity (trinitie spherules), or between aerodynamic and ground glass from other nuclear tests have yet to be reported.

80 In contrast to recent studies characterizing ground glass from the Pu-fueled Trinity test, this study characterizes 81 aerodynamic fallout glass from a U-fueled device. Bulk studies (analyses of dissolved spherules) of these materials 82 has been recently reported (Eppich et al., 2014). Here, we characterize the spatial distribution of unfissioned U fuel 83 within individual glassy fallout spherules using secondary ion mass spectrometry (SIMS) combined with scanning 84 electron microscopy/energy-dispersive x-ray spectroscopy (SEM/EDS), electron probe microanalysis (EPMA), and 85 autoradiography. For each spherule, we measured the extent of uranium isotopic heterogeneity, major element 86 composition, and radioactivity, and we correlate these observations with spatial locations within individual 87 spherules. The extent of mixing is quantified by assuming a model of two-component mixing between uranium from 88 the soil and/or device with enriched uranium from the device, and then calculating the relative contribution of each 89 end member to each U isotopic measurement. We use our collective results to discuss the evidence and role of 90 different mechanisms in fallout formation.

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92 2. Materials and methods

93 2.1 Fallout spherules

Five millimeter-size fallout spherules were selected from soil collected at the site of a historic, uranium-fueled, nearsurface nuclear test. The soil samples were collected about 120 meters from ground zero along the path of the fallout 96 plume. Glassy fallout is easily identifiable in soil collections due to its smooth surface morphology and aerodynamic 97 shape (Fig. 1). The spherules were isolated from sieved soils by visual inspection and handpicked under an optical 98 microscope, then were weighed and photographed. Each spherule was mounted in epoxy and polished to expose an 99 interior surface close to the mid-plane of the object. Samples were coated with ~10-20 nm of carbon to prevent 9100 charging, and then characterized by SEM/EDS, EPMA, autoradiography, and SIMS.

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102[Figure 1 — Optical images of size-sorted fallout (left) showing distinct dark glassy aerodynamic103shapes mixed with soil fragments, and an isolated piece of aerodynamic fallout glass (right). The104bright artifact in the center of the isolated aerodynamic fallout glass is the ring light from the105optical microscope, which also highlights the high degree of symmetry in these objects.]

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The selected aerodynamic fallout samples range in diameter from 1.3-2.4 mm and in mass from 2.5-14.5 mg (Table
1). They appear light to dark green in color and are optically translucent and glossy. Vesicles are visible within the volume of some of the glasses.

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[Table 1 — Fallout spherule labels, masses, and average diameters.]

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113 **2.2 Experimental methods**

114 **2.2.1 SEM, EDS, and EPMA**

Backscattered electron images of the samples were taken using an FEI Inspect-F SEM equipped with an AMETEK EDAX Apollo XL Si drift energy-dispersive x-ray spectrometer. The SEM was operated at an accelerating voltage

117 of 20 kV with a beam current of ~ 1.5 nA.

118 Elemental maps and major element compositions were determined with a JEOL JXA-8200 electron probe equipped 119 with five wavelength-dispersive spectrometers, and a JEOL energy-dispersive x-ray spectrometer. X-ray intensities 120 were converted to concentrations using CITZAF (Armstrong, 1995). The EPMA was operated with a 15 kV 121 accelerating potential, 5 nA of probe current and a 2 µm beam diameter. The following silicate and oxide standards 122 were used: orthoclase (for Si, Al, K), Fe₂O₃ (for Fe), spessartine (for Mn), rutile (for Ti), diopside (for Ca), albite 123 (for Na), and MgO (for Mg). The samples were analyzed for major element composition in rectangular arrays with 124 30-100 spot analyses per sample. Regions adjacent to vesicles, cracks or pits that resulted in element concentrations 125 of less than 98 wt.% or greater than 102 wt.% were excluded from our data set.

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127 2.2.2 Sample autoradiography

128 To obtain the autoradiographs, the samples were placed onto a photo-phosphor imaging plate for 34 hours inside a 129 light-blocking tent. All five samples were imaged together on the same plate for the same length of time, to provide 130 relative qualitative images of activity distributions. The plate was developed and the autoradiograph images 131 digitized using a GE Typhoon 7000 scanner at a spatial resolution of 50 µm/pixel. The autoradiographs record the 132 distributions of β^2 activity and near-surface α activity (respective mean free paths of ~ 1 cm and ~ 10 µm in silicates). 133 Autoradiographs of these samples are dominated by β activity because of the low specific activity of U in these 134 samples. The fission products ¹³⁷Cs and ⁹⁰Sr are the dominant sources of β radioactivity in fallout samples more 135 than several decades old, and are likely the major contributors of β -radioactivity in these samples.

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137 2.2.3 Spatially-resolved U isotope measurements

138 Spatially-resolved U isotope ratios were measured by SIMS in two separate analytical sessions, one at Lawrence 139 Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) using a modified Cameca ims-3f SIMS instrument to analyze four of the

- 140 five spherules (U1A was not analyzed at LLNL), and one at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) using a
- 141 Cameca ims-1280 SIMS to analyze all five spherules. The LLNL analyses measured the ²³⁵U/²³⁸U ratio on four
- spherules and U concentrations on two spherules (U3 and U4), while the LANL analyses measured the $^{234}U/^{238}U$,

²³⁵U/²³⁸U, and ²³⁶U/²³⁸U ratios on all five spherules. Approximately 20 spot analyses were performed per spherule at LLNL, and between 3 and 45 spot analyses were performed per sample at LANL (Fig. 2).

SIMS analyses at LLNL were conducted using a 5 nA, ¹⁶O⁻ primary ion beam that impacted the sample with a 145 146 kinetic energy of 17 keV, focused into a spot of ~10-30 µm diameter. Positive secondary ions were accelerated to 147 4500 V and focused into the mass spectrometer set to a mass resolving power of \sim 3000, sufficient to resolve the 148 relevant molecular interferences, and were then counted using a single electron multiplier detector. Data were 149 collected using two different mass sequences. Initially, data were obtained for masses 250.8 (used for background signal characterization), 251 ($^{235}U^{16}O^{+}$), and 254 ($^{238}U^{16}O^{+}$); the intensities of $^{234}U^{16}O^{+}$ and $^{236}U^{16}O^{+}$ were below the 150 151 detection limits of the instrument. In a second series of analyses, the mass table was expanded to include mass 29.8 152 (background) and 30 (30 Si⁺), such that the U concentration at each analysis spot could be determined through 153 comparison of the spherule's average Si concentration (determined by EPMA) and (²³⁵U¹⁶O⁺+²³⁸U¹⁶O⁺)/³⁰Si⁺ ratio to 154 the same ratio and nominal glass composition in our \sim 350 µg/g U-bearing glass standard. SIMS analyses in 155 locations where the Si concentration deviated significantly (> 2σ) from the average Si concentration of the spherule 156 were excluded from the U concentration calculations.

157 At LLNL, a single SIMS analysis consisted of 70-100 cycles, where for each cycle, the magnetic field was adjusted 158 to each of the analyzed masses for a user-defined period of time. A single cycle took approximately 30 seconds. 159 Each cycle, the uranium masses were counted for 3-5 s, with typical count rates of 100-300 counts per second on 160 $^{235}U^{16}O^{+}$. When we measured $^{30}Si^{+}$ (on spherules U3 and U4), typical count rates were 200,000-300,000 counts per 161 second. Magnet settling times depend on the applied change in the magnetic field, but were typically on the order of 162 ~1 s.

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[Figure 2 - Backscattered electron images with SIMS analysis locations overlaid. The contrast of each image was individually adjusted to emphasize compositional zoning features and no inferences about compositional differences between the samples should be drawn from these images. Filled blue circles show the locations of the LLNL SIMS analyses (spot size: $\sim 10-30 \mu m$), while filled yellow squares show the locations of the LANL SIMS analyses (raster size: $25 \times 25 \mu m$). The markers have been enlarged to ease viewing and are not representative of the actual size of the SIMS analyses. Sample U1B is shown twice, as this sample was initially analyzed at LLNL, then re-polished to expose a different surface, prior to analysis at LANL.]

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173 SIMS analyses at LANL were conducted using a 20-30 nA ¹⁶O⁻ primary ion beam that impacted the sample with a 174 kinetic energy of 20 keV. Positive secondary ions were accelerated to 10 kV and detected using either mono-175 collection (magnetic peak switching with a single electron multiplier detector) or multi-collection (static magnetic 176 field with multiple electron multiplier detectors). The ion transfer optics were tuned to image an 80 µm field of view 177 using a 400 µm diameter contrast aperture and a 3000-4000 µm diameter field aperture. A mass resolving power of 178 \sim 3000-4000 was used for both the mono-collector and the multi-collector analyses. Nuclear magnetic resonance 179 control was used to stabilize the magnet for analyses performed by static multi-collection. A 40 x 40 µm area was 180 pre-sputtered for 60 seconds, after which secondary ions were collected from a 25 x 25 μ m rastered area for the mass sequence 233.8 (used for background signal characterization), ²³⁴U⁺, ²³⁵U⁺, ²³⁶U⁺, and ²³⁸U⁺. 181

182 At LANL, spherules U1A, U1B, U2, and U3 were analyzed in mono-collection mode and spherule U4 was analyzed 183 in multi-collection mode. In mono-collection, a single analysis consisted of 20-25 cycles, where cycles took 184 approximately 30 seconds. For each cycle, the uranium masses were counted for between 2-5 s, with typical count 185 rates of 2000-5000 counts per second on 235 U⁺. The magnet was settled for 1 s between masses. In multi-collection, 186 data were collected in 2 second cycles for 50 cycles, with typical count rates of ~1700 counts per second on 235 U⁺.

187 The accuracy, precision, and instrumental mass fractionation of U isotope analyses made at LLNL and LANL were 188 determined using two synthetic silicate glasses doped respectively with ~350 µg/g and ~3,500 µg/g of uranium, 189 fabricated following the procedure outlined in Appendix A. Multi-collector inductively-coupled plasma mass 190 spectrometry (MC-ICP-MS) was used to measure the U concentration and U-isotope composition of the glasses 191 following procedures discussed in Appendix A; the results are shown in Table 2.

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[Table 2 – U Concentrations and U isotopic ratios of our U-bearing glass standards as measured

194 by MC-ICP-MS.]

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196 The standards were measured periodically throughout the analytical sessions to correct for any day-to-day variability 197 in the mass bias of the SIMS instruments. We measured the \sim 350 µg/g standard 23 times at LLNL and measured the 198 \sim 3,500 µg/g standard 10 times at LANL while operating the instrument as a multi-collector and 7 times while 199 operating as a mono-collector (Appendix A). We present the accuracy as the percent deviation of the mean of the 200 SIMS measurements from measurements made with MC-ICP-MS (Table 2) and precision as two times the relative 201 standard error of the mean (Table 3). The lower precision and accuracy of the multi-collector analyses of the 202 ²³⁴U/²³⁸U and ²³⁶U/²³⁸U ratios reflects differences in the experimental protocol, which led to poorer counting 203 statistics for ²³⁴U⁺ and ²³⁶U⁺. 204

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[Table 3 - Accuracy and precision of the SIMS measurements on our U-bearing glass standards.]

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207 3. Results

208 **3.1 Distribution of major elements and radionuclides**

209 The backscattered electron images and quantitative EPMA compositional maps show that spherules U1A and U1B 210 are nearly circular in cross section and free of large internal variations in chemical composition (Figs. 2 and 3). The 211 polished section of U1A contains several large (10-100s of um in diameter) vesicles, while U1B is nearly void-free 212 in cross-section. The regions appearing dark in the backscattered electron images and bright in the Si compositional 213 maps of U1A and U1B consist entirely of Si and O, determined using EDS, and are likely quartz that was partially 214 or completely melted during detonation. Sample U2 has an elongated, teardrop shape with one large vesicle and 215 multiple smaller vesicles, and exhibits greater compositional heterogeneity than the four other samples. U3 is \sim 2.4 216 mm in maximum diameter and semi-circular in cross section with many vesicles clustered near the center, exhibiting 217 some Ca heterogeneity and several enriched Si regions that have sharply delineated boundaries (Fig. 3). U4 is ~ 2.3 218 mm in maximum diameter and also semi-circular in cross section, with no significant voids. Like U2, sample U4 219 appears to exhibit larger scale compositional heterogeneity, particularly with respect to Ca (Fig. 3).

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222 223 [Figure 3 – Chemical compositional maps for all 5 spherules. Composition maps of Si, Al, Ca, and Fe (respectively) determined from wavelength-dispersive x-ray spectrometry mapping using EPMA. All scale bars are 500 µm.]

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225 Nine oxides account for ~99% of the composition of the spherules (because the spherule major element bulk 226 compositions are similar to that of the local soils (see Eppich et al, 2014), we assume major elements are present in 227 their oxide forms). The results of the EPMA analyses (Table 4) indicate that all five samples have similar major 228 element chemical compositions, enriched in Si (\sim 72% SiO₂) and Al (\sim 14% Al₂O₃). Two samples, U2 and U4, have 229 regions characterized by two distinct compositional regions, indicated by the bright and dark regions in the 230 respective backscattered electron images, and highlighted in the Ca compositional maps (Figs. 2 and 3). The relative 231 standard deviation (the standard deviation divided by the mean) of the CaO concentration illustrates a difference of 232 7.5% for U1A versus 55% for U2 and 30% for U4. For U2, the CaO, FeO, K₂O, and MgO concentrations are 233 significantly different (> 2σ) between the bright and dark regions in the backscattered electron image and Ca 234 compositional map (the bright region is enriched in CaO, FeO, and MgO and depleted in K₂O relative to the dark 235 region). For U4, CaO, Al₂O₃, and SiO₂ concentrations are significantly different between the two regions (the bright 236 region is enriched in CaO and Al₂O₃ and depleted in SiO₂ relative to the dark region).

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238 [Table 4 – Average major element compositions in wt.% of multiple EPMA spot analyses for all 5 239 spherules. The 1σ symbols refer to one standard deviation of multiple analyses.]

240[Table 5 – Average major element compositions in wt.% of multiple EPMA spot analyses for241different compositional regions in spherules U2 and U4. Average major element compositions in242wt.% determined by EPMA for samples U2 and U4 separated into measurements made in the

bright and dark regions, as determined from the backscattered electron image and Ca compositional map (Figs. 2 and 3). Measurements taken on the boundary of the regions were discarded. The 1σ symbols refer to one standard deviation of multiple analyses.]

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There are large differences in relative radioactivity between the five samples, with U1A exhibiting much lower activity compared to U1B, which exhibits the highest activity (Fig. 4). In U1A and U1B, activity is homogeneously distributed, while U2, U3, and U4 show heterogeneous activity distributions. In U2, the region of lowest activity correlates with the region of lower average atomic number (Fig. 2), the region relatively depleted in CaO, FeO, K₂O, and MgO (Fig. 3). Sample U4 exhibits the opposite correlation, however, with the region of lowest activity correlating with the region of higher average atomic number (Figs. 2), relatively enriched in CaO and Al₂O₃ (Fig 3.).

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[Figure 4 - Backscattered electron (top) and autoradiography (bottom) images of the 5 fallout glasses characterized in this study. Backscattered electron micrographs show polished midsections of the samples. The contrast of each image was individually adjusted to emphasize compositional zoning features and no inferences about compositional differences between the samples should be drawn from these images. The bright region towards the center of sample U3 is sample charging. On the bottom, false color qualitative autoradiography images indicate both a and β activity (but is likely dominated by β activity due to the low specific activity of uranium in these samples), where yellow-white areas depict areas of highest activity. All five images were obtained from the same exposure and differences in color reflect relative differences in radioactivity within and between the samples. All scale bars are 500 µm.]

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265 **3.2** Uranium isotope distributions

Combining analytical sessions at LLNL and LANL, we measured the ${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$ ratio in 184 locations. Among all five spherules, the ${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$ isotope ratio spans a factor of nearly 600, from 0.02 to 11.84 (Table 6 and Fig. 5). The lowest ${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$ ratio (${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$ =0.02) measured is ~2.75 times greater than that of natural uranium (${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$ =0.00725). The highest ${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$ ratio falls below that of so-called oralloy (${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$ ~17.3, or ~93% enriched in ${}^{235}U$), a type of highly enriched uranium common in the U.S. nuclear stockpile during the era of above ground testing (Moody, 1994). Within a single spherule, U2, the ${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$ ratio ranges from 0.02 to 7.41, a factor of nearly 400 (Fig. 5). In MC-ICP-MS analyses of whole spherules, similar variation has been observed, but to a far lesser degree (from ${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$ =2.32 to ${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$ =7.72 in 28 samples; Eppich et al., 2014).

The 104 SIMS analyses made at LANL also measured the ${}^{234}U/{}^{238}U$ and ${}^{236}U/{}^{238}U$ ratios. These minor isotope ratios also span a large range of values, from ${}^{234}U/{}^{238}U=0.0003$ and ${}^{236}U/{}^{238}U=0.0002$ in one analysis on spherule U2 to ${}^{234}U/{}^{238}U=0.09$ and ${}^{236}U/{}^{238}U=0.04$ in one analysis on spherule U1B (Figs. 6 and 7; Table 6). In addition, the minor U isotope ratios show a strong linear correlation among all five samples when plotted against ${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$ (Figs. 6 and 7). For ${}^{234}U/{}^{238}U$ vs. ${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$, a linear fit to the data has a slope and 2σ uncertainty of 0.01082 ± 0.00007 (R² = 0.999). For ${}^{236}U/{}^{238}U$ vs. ${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$, a linear fit has a slope and 2σ uncertainty of 0.00479 ± 0.00005 (R² = 0.997). Both fits have y-intercepts that pass through the origin within 2σ uncertainties.

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[Table 6 – SIMS measurements of U isotope ratios on all 5 spherules. Uncertainties are 2σ .]

- Samples U1A and U1B are relatively homogeneous with respect to both chemical composition (Table 1 and Fig. 3) and uranium isotope ratios, except for the single $^{235}U/^{238}U$ ratio of 11.84 measured near the periphery of U1B (Figs. 8 and 9). The three measurements on U1A have a mean $^{235}U/^{238}U$ ratio of 3.48 and relative standard deviation of 11.0%. For U1B, the mean value of the $^{235}U/^{238}U$ ratios (excluding the 11.84 value) is 7.14, with a relative standard deviation of 8.3%. By comparison, samples U2, U3, and U4, yielded relative standard deviations in measured $^{235}U/^{238}U$ ratios of 76.7%, 42.7%, and 26.4%, for U2, U3, and U4, respectively. We found no systematic variation in the $^{235}U/^{238}U$ ratio with position in U1A and U1B, and our observations collectively show that these two samples are relatively well mixed in both major elements and uranium isotopes.
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- As stated above, U1B exhibits a singularly high ²³⁵U/²³⁸U ratio of 11.84 near the spherule's periphery. We explored
- 293 the spatial extent of this region by translating the stage $\sim 20 \ \mu\text{m}$ and performing another SIMS analysis. The 294 $^{235}\text{U}/^{238}\text{U}$ ratio in this second location is 8.16, indistinguishable from values measured elsewhere in the sample. This 295 observation suggests that at least this one localized U-isotope heterogeneity in U1B has a characteristic spatial scale 296 of $\sim 10 \ \mu\text{m}$ or less.
- 297 U3 exhibits greater compositional (particularly with respect to Ca; Table 4 and Fig. 3) and U isotope heterogeneity 298 compared to U1A or U1B (Fig. 10). The relative standard deviations of the Ca concentration and ²³⁵U/²³⁸U ratios for 299 U3 are 20% and 43%, respectively (compared with U1A's respective relative standard deviations of 7.5% and 11.0%). The large relative standard deviation in the ²³⁵U/²³⁸U ratio in U3 reflects several low values near the center 300 301 of the sample, and reduces to 29% if those values are excluded. There are no features in the backscattered electron 302 image or composition maps with which these centrally located low ratios are correlated, but the autoradiography 303 image also shows a low activity region near the center of the sample (Fig. 4), suggesting that heterogeneous 304 distributions of trace constituents but not major element constituents may correlate with the observed variation in U 305 isotopics in sample U3.
- 306 Spherules U2 and U4 exhibit correlations between U isotope ratios and major element composition (Figs. 11 and 307 12). In U2, measured U-isotope ratios appear to correlate with two distinct compositional regions. One region, characterized by $1 < {}^{235}\text{U}/{}^{238}\text{U} < 8$, is enriched in CaO, FeO, and MgO (bright region in U2's Ca and Fe compositional maps), while the second region, characterized by $0.02 < {}^{235}\text{U}/{}^{238}\text{U} < 1$, is associated with the region 308 309 310 enriched in K₂O (dark regions in U2's Ca and Fe compositional maps; Table 5, Figs. 3 and 11). The $^{235}U/^{238}U$ ratios 311 in sample U4 also display this type of bimodal behavior. However, in contrast to sample U2, the regions enriched in CaO in sample U4 are associated with *lower* 235 U/ 238 U ratios (Table 5, Figs. 3 and 12). The regions enriched in CaO 312 and Al₂O₃ (bright regions in the Ca compositional map for sample U4) contain $2 < {}^{235}U/{}^{238}U < 4$, while the regions 313 314 enriched in SiO₂ and depleted in CaO and Al₂O₃ (dark regions in the Ca compositional map for sample U4) are associated with higher ${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$ ratios, $4 < {}^{235}U/{}^{238}U < 6.5$ (Figs. 3 and 12). 315
- In two of the samples, U3 and U4, the 235 U/ 238 U ratio and the uranium concentration were simultaneously measured 316 317 (Fig. 13 and Appendix B). Measured uranium concentrations range from 3 to 19 μ g/g, with a 2σ uncertainty of 8-318 15% (this uncertainty is dominated by the variability in the SiO₂ concentration in the spherules measured using 319 EPMA, as the SiO₂ concentration is assumed constant relative to changes in U concentration). In contrast, the 320 concentration of uranium in fallout-free soils near ground zero ranges from 2.7 to 4.8 µg/g, and bulk uranium 321 concentrations reported from single spherules ranged from 14.7 to 32.9 µg/g (Eppich et al., 2014). Uranium 322 concentrations in U3 and U4 show strong positive correlations with the measured $^{235}U/^{238}U$ ratio (R²=0.77 as a 323 combined data set with one outlier excluded; $R^2=0.68$ with the outlier included).
- 324

325 326 327	[Figure 5 - Histogram of all $^{235}U/^{238}U$ measurements. There are 25 bins spaced equally between $^{235}U/^{238}U=0.01$ and $^{235}U/^{238}U=20$. The preponderance of low $^{235}U/^{238}U$ ratios in U2, contrasted with higher values in U1B and U4 is apparent. Data are from LANL and LLNL.]
328 329	[Figure 6 - Composite 3-isotope plot of $^{234}U/^{238}U$ vs. $^{235}U/^{238}U$ for all spherules. Uncertainties are 2σ . Data are from LANL.]
330 331	[Figure 7 Composite 3-isotope plot of ${}^{236}U/{}^{238}U$ vs. ${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$ for all spherules. Uncertainties are 2σ . Data are from LANL.]
332 333	[Figure 8 - $^{235}U/^{238}U$ vs. distance from the spherule's center on U1A. Uncertainties are 2σ . Data are from LANL.]
334 335 336	[Figure 9 - $^{235}U/^{238}U$ vs. distance from the spherule's center on U1B. Note the singularly high $^{235}U/^{238}U$ ratio of 11.84 near the periphery. Uncertainties are 2σ . Data are from LANL and LLNL.]
337 338	[Figure 10 - $^{235}U/^{238}U$ vs. distance from the spherule's center on U3. Uncertainties are 2σ . Data are from LANL and LLNL.]
339 340	[Figure 11 - $^{235}U/^{238}U$ vs. distance from the spherule's center on U2. Note the logarithmic ordinate scale. Data are separated into SIMS measurements taken in the bright and dark regions,

- as defined in the text and shown in the backscattered electron image and Ca and Fe compositional
 maps (Figs. 2 and 3). Uncertainties are 2σ. Data are from LANL and LLNL.]
- [Figure 12 ²³⁵U/²³⁸U vs. distance from the spherule's center on U4. Data are separated into
 SIMS measurements taken in the bright and dark regions, as defined in the text and shown in the
 backscattered electron image and Ca compositional map (Figs. 2 and 3). Uncertainties are 2σ.
 Data are from LANL and LLNL.]
- 347[Figure 13 $^{235}U/^{238}U$ vs. uranium concentration for samples U3 and U4. The vertical bar348represents the range of U concentrations measured in five soil samples proximate to ground zero349(between 2.7 and 4.8 μ g/g; Eppich et al., 2014). Uncertainties are 2σ . Data are from LLNL.]
- 350

351 4. Discussion

352 4.1 Compositional heterogeneity and fallout formation processes

353 Our results suggest that the scale uranium isotope heterogeneity observed within aerodynamic glassy fallout 354 spherules is even greater that that revealed (e.g., Eppich et al., 2014) through studies of whole spherules. In a single 355 spherule, U2, the U isotopic ratio varies by nearly a factor of 400, while in another single spherule, U1B (if the 356 outlier of 11.84 is excluded) the U isotopic ratio varies by less than 10%. Heterogeneity in U concentration also 357 varies greatly from sample to sample, and within individual samples of aerodynamic glassy fallout. Spatial analyses 358 make it clear that the elevated concentration of uranium observed in aerodynamic glasses correlates with, and is 359 derived from, contributions from the device. Previously reported U concentrations from single spherules (15 to 33 360 $\mu g/g$; Eppich et al., 2014) overlap our observed range of U concentrations within spherules (3 to 19 $\mu g/g$), but the 361 former are systematically higher. It remains unclear if this difference is due to our limited sample size (spatial 362 concentration measurements were obtained in select SIMS analyses and from a subset of two samples). As 363 demonstrated by U isotope measurements, however, it is expected that the degree of chemical heterogeneity 364 observed in such samples can be dampened through application of bulk measurement techniques. We anticipate that 365 if additional spatial analyses of U concentration are pursued, we will observe and likely surpass the concentration 366 values reported from bulk measurements.

367 The degree of uranium isotope heterogeneity, major element compositions reflecting a dominant contribution from 368 nearby soils, and physical sample dimensions do not support agglomeration of pure vapor condensates as a primary 369 mechanism in forming fallout of the type analyzed for this study. The compositional and U isotopic variation 370 observed in samples U2 and U4, for examples suggests these spherules formed through the collision and mixing of 371 two or more relatively large, molten objects of dissimilar, but aluminosilicate-dominated composition. As can be 372 seen in the compositional maps, two distinct compositional regions are defined in both U2 and U4 (Figs. 2 and 3). 373 Each of those regions are also bimodal with respect to U isotope compositions. Such evidence implies that the melts 374 forming these two regions must have incorporated different amounts of U from the device prior to agglomeration 375 and partial mixing. The final agglomerated objects experienced little mixing before fusing, preserving these textures. 376 Of note, while both U2 and U4 reveal a correlation between CaO concentration and U isotope composition, the 377 samples are correlated in opposing senses. Spherule U2 shows a negative correlation, whereas spherule U4 shows a 378 positive correlation. Generally, Ca is regarded as a more refractory species, while U tends towards more volatile 379 behavior (Miller, 1960; Bedford and Jackson, 1965). Such opposing observations in fallout from the same event 380 makes it clear that in the case of this particular test, formation conditions favored multiple chemical behaviors. 381 Understanding the physical and chemical processes that result in such dichotomy will require additional study.

382 A distinguishing feature in two other spherules, U1A and U1B, is the relative homogeneity of U isotope composition 383 and major element compositions within the spherules. We interpret this to mean that the molten precursor droplets 384 were held above the solidification temperature (~1300 K, determined by MELTS calculations of liquidus 385 temperatures for glasses of these compositions; Ghiorso and Sack, 1995; Asimow and Ghiorso, 1998) long enough 386 at high enough temperature to effectively homogenize the silicate melts. This may have occurred through a 387 combination of convective and/or diffusive processes, but the present study cannot differentiate between the two. 388 Alternatively, such spherules may have formed by agglomeration of parcels of melt that were similar with respect to 389 composition and U isotopic composition.

391 4.2 Mixing between natural and enriched uranium

392 The observed range of U isotope ratios in the spherules provides evidence for mixing between at least two sources of uranium with different isotopic compositions. As previously stated, the maximum observed ²³⁵U/²³⁸U ratio in this 393 study, 11.84 (~91.5% enriched in ²³⁵U, assuming 1% ²³⁴U), approaches the ²³⁵U/²³⁸U ratio in oralloy (²³⁵U/²³⁸U~17.3), while the minimum measured ²³⁵U/²³⁸U ratio, ~0.02 in sample U2, approaches the ²³⁵U/²³⁸U value 394 395 found in natural uranium, ²³⁵U/²³⁸U=0.00725. The correlated variations in the minor isotope ratios, ²³⁴U/²³⁸U and 396 397 ²³⁶U/²³⁸U, are also consistent with values approaching these two end-members. Using natural uranium and oralloy as 398 end-members, we calculate the relative contribution of each end-member to each ²³⁵U/²³⁸U isotopic ratio 399 measurement, assuming simple two component mixing. This calculation assumes (1), the only source of enriched 400 uranium is represented by oralloy from the device and (2), isotopic fractionation of uranium in the silicate melt can 401 be neglected. To a good approximation, we may ignore the minor isotopes in natural uranium, as ²³⁴U only 402 ~0.0055% of natural uranium, and the ²³⁶U content in natural uranium is vanishingly small (Richter et al., 1999).

With these assumptions, let the isotopic abundances of 235 U and 238 U in natural uranium be represented as $y_{235} = 0.00725$ and $y_{238} = 0.99275$. Similarly, let x_{235} and x_{238} represent the abundances of 235 U and 238 U in the enriched uranium end-member. Let n_f and n_n represent, respectively, the contributions from the enriched and natural uranium end-members in an individual SIMS measurement. The number of atoms of 235 U and 238 U in an individual 407 measurement is given by:

$$\frac{235}{100} U: n_{235} = n_{f} x_{235} + n_{p} y_{235}, \tag{1a}$$

409
$${}^{238}\text{U:} \ n_{238} = n_f x_{238} + n_n y_{238}. \tag{1b}$$

411 The ${}^{235}U/{}^{238}U$ ratio may then be represented as:

412
$$\frac{n_{235}}{n_{238}} = \frac{n_f x_{235} + n_n y_{235}}{n_f x_{238} + n_n y_{238}}.$$
 (2)

413 Solving Equation 2 for n_n/n_f gives an expression of the relative contribution from the two uranium isotope end-414 members to each U isotope ratio:

415
$$\frac{n_n}{n_f} = \frac{x_{235} - \frac{n_{235}}{n_{238}} x_{238}}{\frac{n_{235}}{n_{238}} y_{238} - y_{235}}.$$
 (3)

416 Equation 3, using our measurements, is plotted in Figure 14, illustrating the range of mixing observed between the 417 uranium isotope end-members assumed in this model.

418

419 [Figure 14 - Ratio of natural to enriched U for each SIMS analysis. Contributions of uranium of 420 natural isotopic composition (n_n) relative to uranium from the enriched (HEU) end-member (n_f) as 421 a function of the ²³⁵U/²³⁸U ratio for samples U1A, U1B, U2, U3, and U4, calculated from Equation 422 3. The dashed line represents the solution to Equation 3 and depicts the shape of the mixing line. 423 The mixing line asymptotically approaches infinity as the ²³⁵U/²³⁸U ratio approaches the 424 composition of natural uranium, ²³⁵U/²³⁸U = 0.00725, and asymptotically approaches zero as the 425 $\frac{235}{235}U/^{238}U$ ratio approaches 17.3, the ²³⁵U/²³⁸U ratio in oralloy (Moody, 1994). Where uncertainties 426 (2σ) are not visible, they are smaller than the data points.]

427

428 5. Conclusions

Five fallout spherules were characterized using SIMS, SEM/EDS, EPMA, and autoradiography. Two samples (U1A and U1B) are far more relatively homogenous with respect to both major element composition and uranium isotopes

than the other three (U2, U3, and U4), suggesting these objects had longer residence times within the fireball at high

432 temperature, or were formed from approximately homogenous precursors, with respect to composition and uranium

isotopics. The ²³⁵U/²³⁸U ratio is correlated with major element composition in two spherules, suggesting
 agglomeration of molten or partially molten precursors, followed by rapid cooling.

435 Individual spherules display variable compositional heterogeneity suggestive of rapid cooling and incomplete 436 mixing, exhibiting heterogeneity in U isotopes with $0.02 < {}^{235}\text{U}/{}^{238}\text{U} < 11.84$ among the five spherules, and 0.02 < $^{235}U/^{238}U < 7.84$ within a single spherule. Correlated variations among the $^{234}U/^{238}U$, $^{235}U/^{238}U$, and $^{236}U/^{238}U$ ratios 437 438 point to mixing between end-member components corresponding to highly enriched uranium derived from the 439 device and natural uranium. The range of heterogeneity in measured uranium isotope ratios suggests that these 440 spherules preserve a mixture of uranium from at least two end-members with distinct uranium isotope compositions. 441 We used a two-component mixing model, one end-member being natural uranium and the other having the 442 composition of oralloy (HEU), to illustrate the range of mixing between natural and enriched U in these fallout 443 glasses.

- The extent of mixing and the magnitude of uranium isotopic heterogeneity provide important constraints on the thermal history of aerodynamic fallout glasses, showing that both agglomeration and molten mixing of chemically heterogeneous molten precursor materials must have been key formation processes prior to quenching. These studies suggest preservation of millimeter to micron scale chemical heterogeneities in the fireball over time scales of seconds, and point the way to developing a more quantitative understanding of the formation of fallout.
- 449

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547 Appendix A - Fabrication and measurements of U-bearing standard glasses

548 A.1 Fabrication of the U-bearing standard glasses

549 The standard glasses were prepared by doping a base glass composition corresponding to one of the eutectic

550 compositions in the CaO-Al₂O₃-SiO₂ system. The nominal composition is SiO₂=62 wt.%, Al₂O₃=14.5 wt.% and

CaO= 23.5 wt.%. This composition has a melting temperature of 1170°C. The base glass composition was prepared from reagent grade SiO₂, Al₂O₃, and CaCO₃. The oxide-carbonate mix was ground under ethanol in an automated

551 552 553 agate mortar and pestle for 60 minutes and then dried under a heat lamp. The mix was then calcined in a platinum

554 crucible in air at 850°C overnight to decompose the CaCO₃. The calcine was then ground under ethanol in an

555 automated agate mortar and pestle for 60 minutes and then dried under a heat lamp. Finally, the base glass calcine

- 556 was fused in a bottom-loading Deltech furnace in a platinum crucible for a minimum of 8 hours at 1450°C and
- 557 quenched in water, producing a clear glass. The glass was then crushed in a hardened steel mortar and pestle, and
- 558 then ground under ethanol in an automated agate mortar and pestle for 60 minutes. This fusion-grinding procedure
- 559 was repeated two additional times.
- 560 The U-doped glasses were prepared by adding nitrate solutions containing 10,000 ppm of certified reference
- 561 material (CRM) U500 to the base glass to obtain glasses with uranium concentrations of \sim 500 and \sim 5,000 µg/g. The 562 solution was pipetted into ~ 5 g of the base glass for each of the glasses. Next, the mixture was ground by hand in a 563 fume hood under ethanol in an agate mortar and pestle for 60 minutes and dried.
- 564 Each mixture was fused in a bottom-loading Deltech furnace in a new platinum crucible for a minimum of 8 hours at
- 565 1450°C and guenched in water. A separate crucible was used for each concentration to minimize cross-
- 566 contamination. Following each fusion step, the glass was removed from the crucible and coarsely ground in a 567 hardened steel mortar. The coarse mix was then ground under ethanol in an agate mortar and pestle for 60 minutes
- 568 and dried. The fusion/grinding cycle was repeated a minimum of three times for each sample.

569 A.2 Isotopic and concentration measurements of the U-bearing standard glasses via MC-ICP-MS

570 The standard glasses were measured for U isotope ratios and U concentrations using a Nu Plasma I high resolution 571 MC-ICP-MS instrument. We used the U010 certified reference material for instrumental mass bias corrections. Each

- 572 glass was once for U isotopics and once, on a separately prepared aliquot using isotope dilution (spiked with ²³³U),
- 573 to obtain U concentrations.
- 574 The MC-ICP-MS measurements show that the glasses deviate from the desired concentrations of \sim 500 and \sim 5,000 575 $\mu g/g$ of U and from the certified U isotope ratios of CRM U500 (Tables 2 and A1). The deviation of the U isotope 576 ratios in the U-bearing standard glasses from the CRM U500 dopant is likely due to U contamination during the 577 fabrication process.
- 578 [Table A1: Deviations of U isotope ratios in LLNL and LANL standard glasses from CRM U500. 579 Uncertainties are 2σ .]

580 A.3 SIMS measurements of the U-bearing standard glasses

- [Table A2: LLNL SIMS measurements of $^{235}U/^{238}U$ on the \sim 350 µg/g U-bearing glass standard. 581 582 *Uncertainties are* 2σ *.*]
- 583 [Table A3: LANL SIMS measurements of $^{234}U/^{238}U$, $^{235}U/^{238}U$, and $^{236}U/^{238}U$ on the ~3,500 µg/g 584 U-bearing glass standard. Modes refer to whether the instrument was operating as a mono-585 *collector or multi-collector. Uncertainties are* 2σ *.*]
- 586 Appendix B - U concentration data for spherules U3 and U4
- 587 [Table B1: LLNL SIMS measurements of the U concentration and their corresponding $^{235}U/^{238}U$ 588 ratios for spherules U3 and U4. The first measurement on spherule U3 was excluded because the 589 composition of the analyzed region was highly enriched in Ca and highly depleted in Si. invalidating the use of the $({}^{235}U^{16}O^+ + {}^{238}U^{16}O^+)/{}^{30}Si^+$ ratio as a method to estimate the U 590 591 concentration in that location. Uncertainties are 2σ .]

592 Table 1

Sample	Mass (mg)	Avg. Diameter (mm)
U1A	3.7	1.6
U1B	2.5	1.4
U2	4.5	1.6
U3	14.8	2.3
U4	14.4	2.2

Standard	U Concentration (µg/g)	2σ	²³⁵ U/ ²³⁸ U		2σ	²³⁴ U/ ²³⁸ U		2σ	²³⁶ U/ ²³⁸ U		2σ		
LLNL	359.1	±	1.2	0.9618	±	0.0013	0.010044	±	0.000006	0.001479	±	0.000006	
LANL	3490	\pm	12	0.9949	\pm	0.0014	0.010371	\pm	0.000006	0.001521	\pm	0.000005	

			²³⁵ U	/ ²³⁸ U	²³⁴ U	/ ²³⁸ U	²³⁶ U/ ²³⁸ U					
Standard	Mode	# analyses	Accuracy (%)	Precision (%)	Accuracy (%)	Precision (%)	Accuracy (%)	Precision (%)				
LLNL	mono	23	0.40	0.30	-	-	-	-				
LANL	mono	7	1.06	0.17	1.62	0.22	1.03	0.49				
LANL	multi	10	0.67	0.05	0.35	0.36	0.02	1.06				

75 Table 4

Sample	# pts	SiO ₂	1σ	Al ₂ O ₃	1σ	CaO		1σ	K ₂ O		1σ	Na ₂ O		1σ	FeO		1σ	TiO ₂		1σ	MnO		1σ	MgO		1σ	Sum
U1A	39	72.36 ±	1.35	14.56	⊢ 0.8	1 1.41	±	0.18	3.69	±	0.12	3.11	±	0.15	3.67	±	0.22	0.33	±	0.02	0.13	±	0.02	0.60	±	0.06	99.86
U1B	49	71.75 ±	0.74	14.49	E 0.5	2 1.84	\pm	0.14	3.64	\pm	0.11	3.12	±	0.10	3.44	\pm	0.21	0.28	±	0.03	0.09	\pm	0.02	0.58	±	0.04	99.23
U2	48	72.18 ±	1.99	13.49	⊧ 1.2	5 1.10	\pm	0.61	4.94	\pm	0.53	3.72	±	0.41	2.27	\pm	0.83	0.23	±	0.06	0.11	\pm	0.03	0.38	±	0.20	98.42
U3	44	71.43 ±	1.67	13.65	⊧ 1.0	2 2.55	\pm	0.51	3.87	\pm	0.21	3.36	±	0.22	3.27	\pm	0.21	0.29	±	0.03	0.15	\pm	0.02	0.64	±	0.06	99.21
U4	49	71.90 ±	4.08	14.30	⊧ 2.2	7 2.61	±	0.76	3.54	±	0.54	2.97	±	0.46	3.22	±	0.50	0.29	±	0.05	0.13	±	0.03	0.56	±	0.10	99.52

597	
598	Table 5
599	

Sample	# pts	SiO ₂		1σ	Al ₂ O ₃		1σ	CaO		1σ	K ₂ O		1σ	FeO		1σ	MgO		1σ
U2 (bright)	14	70.93	±	1.38	13.34	±	1.20	1.79	±	0.19	4.44	±	0.21	3.20	±	0.27	0.59	±	0.07
U2 (dark)	13	72.83	±	0.92	14.06	\pm	0.61	0.45	\pm	0.24	5.50	\pm	0.29	1.36	±	0.22	0.16	\pm	0.07
U4 (bright)	13	69.59	±	0.59	15.54	±	0.40	3.37	\pm	0.14	3.44	±	0.06	3.18	\pm	0.10	0.58	\pm	0.02
U4 (dark)	17	72.51	\pm	1.02	13.96	\pm	0.56	2.14	\pm	0.39	3.71	\pm	0.28	3.37	\pm	0.26	0.58	\pm	0.06

00 Table 6

U1A	²³⁵ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	²³⁴ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	²³⁶ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	U2	²³⁵ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	²³⁴ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	²³⁶ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	U2 (cont.)	²³⁵ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	²³⁴ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	²³⁶ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ
LANL-1	$3.850 \pm$	0.064	$0.0416 \pm$	0.0018	0.01822	± 0.00111	LANL-1	3.372 ±	0.043	0.0360 ± 0	0.0016	0.01751	± 0.00095	LANL-36	5.133 ±	0.043	$0.0553 \pm$	0.0012	0.02482 ± 0	0.00082
LANL-2	$3.084 \pm$	0.051	$0.0329 \pm$	0.0017	0.01538	± 0.00110	LANL-2	3.841 ±	0.055	0.0416 ± 0	0.0014	0.01971	± 0.00092	LANL-37	1.039 ±	0.026	$0.0110 \pm$	0.0004	0.00483 ± 0	0.00034
LANL-3	3.519 ±	0.074	$0.0384 \pm$	0.0029	0.01886	± 0.00151	LANL-3	2.178 ±	0.076	0.0239 ± 0	0.0011	0.01127	± 0.00061	LANL-38	$2.340 \pm$	0.023	$0.0256 \pm$	0.0007	0.01114 ± 0	0.00044
U1B	²³⁵ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	²³⁴ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	²³⁶ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	LANL-4	1.220 ±	0.011	0.0131 ± 0	0.0005	0.00615	± 0.00033	LANL-39	2.390 ±	0.038	$0.0253 \pm$	0.0008	0.01172 ± 0	0.00050
LANL - 1	$7.609 \pm$	0.103	$0.0836 \pm$	0.0025	0.03564	± 0.00171	LANL-5	3.187 ±	0.029	0.0346 ± 0	0.0009	0.01644	± 0.00068	LANL-40	4.474 ±	0.046	$0.0476~\pm$	0.0010	0.02154 ± 0	0.00067
LANL - 2	$7.339 \pm$	0.092	$0.0795 \pm$	0.0023	0.03476	± 0.00141	LANL-6	3.086 ±	0.025	0.0336 ± 0	8000.	0.01557	± 0.00056	LANL-41	5.132 ±	0.039	$0.0546 \pm$	0.0011	0.02393 ± 0	0.00069
LANL - 3	6.142 ±	0.081	$0.0674 \pm$	0.0021	0.02997	± 0.00131	LANL-7	1.576 ±	0.019	0.0174 ± 0	0.0006	0.00795	± 0.00041	LANL-42	5.225 ±	0.040	$0.0566 \pm$	0.0013	0.02497 ± 0	0.00076
LANL - 4	7.172 ±	0.091	$0.0767 \pm$	0.0025	0.03441	± 0.00141	LANL-8	2.595 ±	0.085	0.0282 ± 0	0.0012	0.01309	± 0.00046	LANL-43	4.962 ±	0.036	$0.0532 \pm$	0.0010	0.02350 ± 0	0.00063
LANL - 5	$7.264 \pm$	0.093	$0.0785 \pm$	0.0023	0.03566	± 0.00151	LANL-9	2.953 ±	0.035	0.0318 ± 0	0.0008	0.01502	± 0.00053	LANL-44	5.972 ±	0.061	$0.0647~\pm$	0.0016	0.02883 ± 0	0.00111
LANL - 6	$8.637 \pm$	0.120	$0.0940 \pm$	0.0029	0.04198	± 0.00172	LANL-10	$0.607 \pm$	0.011	0.0071 ± 0	0.0003	0.00311	± 0.00026	LANL-45	$5.420 \pm$	0.054	$0.0586 \pm$	0.0015	0.02608 ± 0	0.00112
LANL - 7	7.121 ±	0.098	$0.0760 \pm$	0.0023	0.03554	± 0.00151	LANL-11	0.838 ±	0.031	0.0095 ± 0	0.0005	0.00439	± 0.00027	LLNL-1	$7.408 \pm$	0.236				
LANL - 8	$6.284 \pm$	0.090	$0.0664 \pm$	0.0028	0.03003	± 0.00141	LANL-12	2.341 ±	0.043	0.0256 ± 0	0.0008	0.01187	± 0.00056	LLNL-2	$3.763 \pm$	0.154				
LANL - 9	$7.052 \pm$	0.244	$0.0792 \pm$	0.0063	0.03261	± 0.00321	LANL-13	5.716 ±	0.055	0.0625 ± 0	0.0012	0.02798	± 0.00080	LLNL-3	$2.853 \pm$	0.100				
LANL - 10	$7.248 \pm$	0.097	$0.0776 \pm$	0.0029	0.03512	± 0.00161	LANL-14	2.631 ±	0.029	0.0289 ± 0	0.0009	0.01300	± 0.00070	LLNL-4	2.827 ±	0.121				
LANL - 11	7.451 ±	0.099	$0.0799 \pm$	0.0027	0.03585	± 0.00151	LANL-15	4.599 ±	0.043	0.0488 ± 0	0.0011	0.02227	± 0.00070	LLNL-5	4.130 ±	0.177				
LANL - 12	$6.085 \pm$	0.106	$0.0649 \pm$	0.0027	0.02910	± 0.00151	LANL - 1	$5.006 \pm$	0.049	0.0544 ± 0	0.0013	0.02456	± 0.00074	LLNL-6	1.475 ±	: 0.090				
LLNL - 1	$6.576 \pm$	0.129					LANL - 1'	7 4.295 ±	0.042	0.0468 ± 0	0.0012	0.02106	± 0.00077	LLNL-7	0.113 ±	0.005				
LLNL - 2	7.215 ±	0.151					LANL - 1	8 0.044 ±	0.003	0.0005 ± 0	0.0001	0.00021	± 0.00009	LLNL-8	4.713 ±	0.138				
LLNL - 3	7.185 ±	0.166					LANL - 19	9 2.767 ±	0.026	0.0297 ± 0	0.0007	0.01326	± 0.00043	LLNL-9	3.744 ±	0.153				
LLNL - 4	$7.967 \pm$	0.119					LANL - 20	$0 0.076 \pm$	0.002	0.0008 ± 0	0.0002	0.00038	± 0.00010	LLNL-10	2.119 ±	0.060				
LLNL - 5	7.421 ±	0.134					LANL -2	$1 0.110 \pm$	0.002	0.0013 ± 0	0.0001	0.00056	± 0.00009	LLNL-11	4.687 ±	0.182				
LLNL - 6	$7.326 \pm$	0.110					LANL - 22	$2 0.165 \pm$	0.004	0.0017 ± 0	0.0002	0.00080	± 0.00013	LLNL-12	5.013 ±	0.140				
LLNL - 7	$7.081 \pm$	0.095					LANL - 2	3 1.232 ±	0.011	0.0129 ± 0	0.0005	0.00624	± 0.00035	LLNL-13	2.711 ±	: 0.129				
LLNL - 8	$7.718 \pm$	0.107					LANL - 24	4 3.887 ±	0.039	0.0427 ± 0	0.0012	0.01932	± 0.00076	LLNL-14	$0.022 \pm$	0.002				
LLNL - 9	$8.025 \pm$	0.104					LANL - 2:	5 0.745 \pm	0.010	0.0078 ± 0	0.0004	0.00361	± 0.00027	LLNL-15	2.816 ±	0.104				
LLNL - 10	$6.676 \pm$	0.083					LANL - 20	6 1.164 ±	0.019	0.0126 ± 0	0.0006	0.00547	± 0.00038	LLNL-16	$0.202 \pm$: 0.006				
LLNL - 11	$6.768 \pm$	0.098					LANL -2^{\prime}	7 4.447 ±	0.037	0.0479 ± 0	0.0011	0.02115	± 0.00082	LLNL-17	$1.010 \pm$	0.045				
LLNL - 12	$6.867 \pm$	0.091					LANL - 2	$3.008 \pm$	0.024	0.0328 ± 0	0.0008	0.01457	± 0.00066	LLNL-18	0.234 ±	= 0.022				
LLNL - 13	$6.354 \pm$	0.049					LANL - 29	9 3.344 ±	0.027	0.0360 ± 0	0.0009	0.01650	± 0.00057	LLNL-19	$0.315 \pm$: 0.031				
LLNL - 14	$7.070 \pm$	0.127					LANL - 30	$0 0.192 \pm$	0.003	0.0020 ± 0	0.0002	0.00098	± 0.00013	LLNL-20	$0.350 \pm$: 0.029				
LLNL - 15	$6.772 \pm$	0.152					LANL - 3	$1 0.301 \pm$	0.005	0.0033 ± 0	0.0003	0.00158	± 0.00016							
LLNL - 16	$6.575 \pm$	0.119					LANL - 32	$2 0.052 \pm$	0.002	0.0005 ± 0	0.0001	0.00022	± 0.00008							
LLNL - 17	$7.059 \pm$	0.146					LANL - 3	$3 0.034 \pm$	0.002	0.0003 ± 0	0.0001	0.00017	± 0.00005							
LLNL - 18	$11.843 \pm$	0.219					LANL - 34	4 0.126 ±	0.002	0.0013 ± 0	0.0001	0.00061	± 0.00007							
LLNL - 19	8.162 ±	0.133					LANL - 3	$5 0.288 \pm$: 0.004	0.0029 ± 0	0.0002	0.00146	± 0.00014							

1 Table 6 (cont.)

U3		²³⁵ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	²³⁴ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	²³⁶ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	U3 (cont.)	²³⁵ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	234U/238U	2σ	²³⁶ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ
LANL	- 1	3.236 ±	0.076	0.0343	± 0.0023	0.01582	± 0.00149	LLNL - 16	0.413 ±	0.026				
LANL	- 2	$2.180 \pm$	0.034	0.0242	± 0.0012	0.01097	± 0.00082	LLNL - 17	$1.154 \pm$	0.033				
LANL	- 3	$3.118 \pm$	0.039	0.0337	± 0.0012	0.01443	± 0.00081	LLNL - 18	$0.241 \pm$	0.010				
LANL	- 4	$3.768 \pm$	0.047	0.0403	± 0.0013	0.01766	± 0.00093	LLNL - 19	$0.899 \pm$	0.056				
LANL	- 5	$3.838 \pm$	0.043	0.0423	± 0.0014	0.01807	± 0.00098	LLNL - 20	$2.627 \pm$	0.079				
LANL	- 6	$3.898 \pm$	0.048	0.0425	± 0.0015	0.01957	± 0.00086	LLNL - 21	$3.042 \pm$	0.078				
LANL	- 7	$3.662 \pm$	0.029	0.0401	± 0.0009	0.01783	± 0.00062	LLNL - 22	$4.324 \pm$	0.143				
LANL	- 8	$1.133 \pm$	0.012	0.0127	± 0.0006	0.00546	± 0.00038	U4	²³⁵ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ	$^{234}U/^{238}U$	2σ	²³⁶ U/ ²³⁸ U	2σ
LANL	- 9	$2.047 \pm$	0.020	0.0221	± 0.0007	0.01003	± 0.00046	LANL -1	$4.708 \pm$	0.070	0.0491 =	€ 0.0028	$0.02298 \pm$	0.00159
LANL	- 10	$2.923 \pm$	0.026	0.0316	± 0.0008	0.01412	± 0.00053	LANL -2	$4.596 \pm$	0.066	0.0523 =	€ 0.0024	$0.02369 \pm$	0.00164
LANL	- 11	$4.030 \pm$	0.040	0.0430	± 0.0010	0.01971	± 0.00070	LANL - 3	$4.635 \pm$	0.063	0.0496 =	⊎ 0.0026	$0.02346 \pm$	0.00161
LANL	- 12	$3.779 \pm$	0.038	0.0399	± 0.0012	0.01795	± 0.00076	LANL -4	$3.935 \pm$	0.067	0.0430 =	⊎ 0.0024	$0.02165 \pm$	0.00161
LANL	- 13	$4.585 \pm$	0.045	0.0495	± 0.0013	0.02307	± 0.00086	LANL - 5	$3.811 \pm$	0.061	0.0416 =	⊎ 0.0022	$0.01800 \pm$	0.00136
LANL	- 14	$5.712 \pm$	0.073	0.0613	± 0.0021	0.02850	± 0.00123	LANL -6	$3.075 \pm$	0.038	0.0332 =	€ 0.0017	$0.01539 \pm$	0.00121
LANL	- 15	$4.713 \pm$	0.064	0.0501	± 0.0016	0.02293	± 0.00103	LANL -7	$3.218 \pm$	0.034	0.0344 =	€ 0.0018	$0.01570 \pm$	0.00116
LANL	- 16	$3.834 \pm$	0.042	0.0413	± 0.0016	0.01855	± 0.00084	LANL -8	$3.953 \pm$	0.049	0.0443 =	⊎ 0.0022	$0.01979 \pm$	0.00150
LANL	- 17	$2.517 \pm$	0.029	0.0271	± 0.0009	0.01267	± 0.00063	LANL -9	$4.204 \pm$	0.052	0.0461 =	⊎ 0.0022	$0.02045 \pm$	0.00146
LANL	- 18	$3.208 \pm$	0.033	0.0344	± 0.0011	0.01534	± 0.00071	LANL -10	$3.869 \pm$	0.047	0.0423 =	⊎ 0.0024	$0.01970 \pm$	0.00149
LANL	- 19	$4.629 \pm$	0.046	0.0506	± 0.0015	0.02311	± 0.00087	LANL -11	$5.225 \pm$	0.066	0.0565 =	⊎ 0.0026	$0.02547 \pm$	0.00175
LANL	- 20	$4.520 \pm$	0.052	0.0483	± 0.0014	0.02231	± 0.00088	LANL -12	$4.737 \pm$	0.068	0.0491 =	⊎ 0.0024	$0.02342 \pm$	0.00165
LANL	- 21	$1.103 \pm$	0.019	0.0118	± 0.0006	0.00536	± 0.00041	LANL -13	$5.237 \pm$	0.064	0.0588 =	⊎ 0.0028	$0.02433 \pm$	0.00177
LANL	- 22	$0.522 \pm$	0.008	0.0055	± 0.0004	0.00248	± 0.00027	LANL -14	$5.150 \pm$	0.066	0.0565 =	⊎ 0.0030	$0.02551 \pm$	0.00185
LANL	- 23	$4.121 \pm$	0.042	0.0442	± 0.0013	0.02018	± 0.00093	LANL -15	$5.164 \pm$	0.070	0.0557 =	± 0.0033	$0.02430 \pm$	0.00196
LANL	- 24	$4.034 \pm$	0.039	0.0434	± 0.0013	0.01959	± 0.00075	LANL -16	$5.344 \pm$	0.069	0.0593 =	⊎ 0.0032	$0.02682 \pm$	0.00198
LANL	- 25	$5.317 \pm$	0.054	0.0576	± 0.0015	0.02605	± 0.00088	LLNL - 1	$5.890 \pm$	0.135				
LANL	- 26	$6.565 \pm$	0.058	0.0708	± 0.0014	0.03211	± 0.00099	LLNL - 2	$6.246 \pm$	0.115				
LANL	- 27	$4.414 \pm$	0.053	0.0477	± 0.0013	0.02176	± 0.00088	LLNL - 3	$5.707 \pm$	0.111				
LANL	- 28	$5.152 \pm$	0.053	0.0572	± 0.0014	0.02466	± 0.00086	LLNL - 4	$6.092 \pm$	0.114				
LLNL -	- 1	$5.454 \pm$	0.115					LLNL - 5	$1.904 \pm$	0.053				
LLNL -	2	$4.394 \pm$	0.125					LLNL - 6	$3.924 \pm$	0.076				
LLNL -	3	$5.478 \pm$	0.114					LLNL - 7	$2.956 \pm$	0.055				
LLNL -	4	$4.282 \pm$	0.101					LLNL - 8	$2.938 \pm$	0.061				
LLNL -	- 5	$3.971 \pm$	0.106					LLNL - 9	$4.317 \pm$	0.115				
LLNL -	6	$1.911 \pm$	0.079					LLNL - 10	$5.102 \pm$	0.124				
LLNL -	- 7	$3.158 \pm$	0.088					LLNL - 11	$5.435 \pm$	0.123				
LLNL -	8	$4.092 \pm$	0.096					LLNL - 12	$5.859 \pm$	0.130				
LLNL -	. 9	$4.326 \pm$	0.100					LLNL - 13	$5.162 \pm$	0.144				
LLNL -	10	$6.779 \pm$	0.178					LLNL - 14	$4.669 \pm$	0.101				
LLNL -	11	$4.901 \pm$	0.108					LLNL - 15	$3.047 \pm$	0.080				
LLNL -	12	$4.469 \pm$	0.110					LLNL - 16	$5.847 \pm$	0.148				
LLNL -	13	6.114 ±	0.191					LLNL - 17	$2.462 \pm$	0.070				
LLNL -	14	$4.476 \pm$	0.119					LLNL - 18	$3.314 \pm$	0.075				
LLNL -	15	$3.076 \pm$	0.058					LLNL - 19	2.113 ±	0.049				

Table A1

Standard	²³⁵ U/ ²³⁸ U		2σ	²³⁴ U/ ²³⁸ U		2σ	²³⁶ U/ ²³⁸ U		2σ
CRM U500 Certificate	0.9997	±	0.0014	0.010422	±	0.000019	0.001519	±	0.000006
LLNL (350 µg/g U)	0.9618	±	0.0013	0.010044	±	0.000006	0.001479	\pm	0.000006
Deviation (%)	-3.79	±	0.19	-3.63	±	0.19	-2.62	±	0.57
LANL (3,500 µg/g U)	0.9949	±	0.0014	0.010371	±	0.000006	0.001521	±	0.000005
Deviation (%)	-0.48	±	0.20	-0.49	±	0.19	0.15	\pm	0.53

Table A2

Analysis #	²³⁵ U/ ²³⁸ U		2σ
1	0.974	±	0.014
2	0.955	±	0.011
3	0.965	±	0.008
4	0.961	±	0.010
5	0.967	\pm	0.008
6	0.955	±	0.009
7	0.968	±	0.011
8	0.960	±	0.014
9	0.975	±	0.009
10	0.970	\pm	0.012
11	0.968	\pm	0.010
12	0.970	±	0.012
13	0.968	±	0.007
14	0.969	±	0.014
15	0.971	\pm	0.017
16	0.959	±	0.014
17	0.974	±	0.014
18	0.965	±	0.019
19	0.957	±	0.011
20	0.956	\pm	0.023
21	0.979	±	0.012
22	0.969	±	0.007
23	0.955	±	0.010

Analysis #	Mode	²³⁵ U/ ²³⁸ U		2σ	²³⁴ U/ ²³⁸ U		2σ	²³⁶ U/ ²³⁸ U		2σ
1	mono	1.0042	±	0.0018	0.01059	±	0.00005	0.00152	±	0.00002
2	mono	1.0057	±	0.0018	0.01051	\pm	0.00006	0.00153	±	0.00002
3	mono	1.0074	±	0.0041	0.01052	\pm	0.00007	0.00154	±	0.00002
4	mono	1.0084	±	0.0055	0.01057	\pm	0.00008	0.00154	±	0.00002
5	mono	1.0018	±	0.0043	0.01050	±	0.00008	0.00153	±	0.00003
6	mono	1.0066	±	0.0059	0.01054	\pm	0.00010	0.00155	±	0.00002
7	mono	1.0040	±	0.0010	0.01053	\pm	0.00005	0.00154	±	0.00002
8	multi	1.0022	±	0.0016	0.01044	\pm	0.00011	0.00154	±	0.00004
9	multi	1.0011	±	0.0016	0.01047	\pm	0.00012	0.00152	±	0.00005
10	multi	1.0024	±	0.0021	0.01037	±	0.00014	0.00154	±	0.00004
11	multi	1.0004	±	0.0019	0.01047	\pm	0.00012	0.00151	±	0.00005
12	multi	1.0011	±	0.0017	0.01039	\pm	0.00014	0.00152	±	0.00005
13	multi	1.0013	\pm	0.0017	0.01032	±	0.00012	0.00155	\pm	0.00005
14	multi	1.0020	\pm	0.0018	0.01044	±	0.00012	0.00151	\pm	0.00005
15	multi	1.0011	±	0.0021	0.01032	\pm	0.00012	0.00156	±	0.00005
16	multi	1.0009	±	0.0017	0.01039	±	0.00012	0.00148	±	0.00006
17	multi	1.0027	±	0.0023	0.01046	±	0.00013	0.00149	±	0.00005

604 Table A3

Sample U3						Sample U4					
²³⁵ U/ ²³⁸ U		2σ	μg/g		2σ	²³⁵ U/ ²³⁸ U		2σ	μg/g		2σ
4.394	±	0.125	12.0	±	1.1	5.890	±	0.135	19.4	±	2.7
5.478	±	0.114	13.1	\pm	1.2	6.246	\pm	0.115	17.9	\pm	2.4
4.282	±	0.101	13.4	\pm	1.3	5.707	\pm	0.111	17.6	\pm	2.4
3.971	±	0.106	11.6	±	1.0	6.092	\pm	0.114	16.1	±	2.2
1.911	±	0.079	4.4	±	0.4	1.904	\pm	0.053	8.3	±	1.1
3.158	±	0.088	12.2	±	1.0	3.924	\pm	0.076	11.9	±	1.6
4.092	±	0.096	11.8	\pm	1.1	2.956	±	0.055	11.1	\pm	1.5
4.326	±	0.100	11.4	\pm	1.0	2.938	±	0.061	10.7	\pm	1.5
6.779	±	0.178	18.7	\pm	1.7	4.317	±	0.115	12.4	\pm	1.7
4.901	±	0.108	10.4	\pm	0.9	5.102	±	0.124	15.8	\pm	2.1
4.469	±	0.110	10.6	\pm	0.9	5.435	±	0.123	12.4	\pm	1.7
6.114	±	0.191	8.5	\pm	1.1	5.859	±	0.130	13.8	\pm	1.9
4.476	±	0.119	10.6	±	0.9	5.162	\pm	0.144	13.4	\pm	1.9
3.076	±	0.058	11.2	\pm	1.0	4.669	\pm	0.101	13.1	\pm	1.8
0.413	±	0.026	3.5	\pm	0.3	3.047	\pm	0.080	11.2	\pm	1.5
1.154	±	0.033	4.8	\pm	0.4	5.847	\pm	0.148	14.5	\pm	2.0
0.241	±	0.010	4.1	±	0.3	2.462	\pm	0.070	9.0	\pm	1.2
0.899	±	0.056	5.6	±	0.5	3.314	\pm	0.075	7.1	\pm	1.1
2.627	±	0.079	9.5	±	0.9	2.113	±	0.049	4.7	\pm	0.6
3.042	±	0.078	15.7	±	1.5						
4.324	±	0.143	13.5	±	1.2						

Fig 1













































